

I/WE CLAIM:

1. A net adapted to be supported in a tensioned condition for sports games comprising:
 - a flexible upper edging and a flexible lower edging, both extending in a substantially horizontal direction;
 - opposed rigid side marginal strips, both extending in a substantially vertical direction;
 - a plurality of equally spaced horizontal strands extending between the opposed rigid side marginal strips, and a plurality of equally spaced vertical strands extending between the upper and lower edges, thereby defining a plurality of mesh openings of the net; andeach of the rigid side marginal strips including:
 - an elongate, substantially flat and rigid hollow body, the body including a side opening, and
 - a rod secured to one side edge of the net, the rod being received in the hollow body and a section of the net extending through the side opening of the body when the net is supported in the tensioned condition.
2. A net as claimed in claim 1 wherein the body comprises open upper and lower ends, and two spaced-apart major walls extending between the upper and lower ends, and thereby defining a closed hollow cross-sectional configuration at an external side thereof for reinforcing the body, and an open hollow cross-sectional configuration at an inner side

thereof including the side open extending between the upper and lower ends.

3. A net as claimed in claim 2 wherein the rigid side marginal strip comprises means for securing net cables which are attached to the respective upper and lower edges of the net.
4. A net as claimed in claim 2 wherein the rigid side marginal strip comprises a pair of covers for closing the respective open upper and lower ends.
5. A net as claimed in claim 2 further comprising a pair of side bands made of a flexible material, each of the side bands being folded to enclose the rod therein and being secured to one side edge of the net.
6. A net as claimed in claim 5 wherein the side bands are made of flexible vinyl.
7. A net as claimed in claim 5 wherein the side bands are made of fabrics.
8. A net as claimed in claim 5 wherein each of the side bands is stitched together with an out-most vertical strand and the horizontal strands.
9. A net as claimed in claim 2 wherein the side opening comprises a width smaller than a diameter of the rod.
10. An apparatus for attaching to one of opposed side edges of a rectangular game net adapted to be supported in a tensioned condition, thereby forming a

rigid side marginal strip of the net, the apparatus comprising:

an elongate, substantially flat and rigid hollow body including

open upper and lower ends,

two spaced-apart major walls extending between the upper and lower ends, and

thereby defining a closed hollow cross-sectional configuration at an external side thereof for reinforcing the body and an open hollow cross-sectional configuration at an inner side thereof having a side opening extending along the entire length of the body between the upper and lower ends, the open hollow cross-sectional configuration being adapted for receiving an elongate element attached to one side edge of the net in a manner of tensioning the net between upper and lower edges thereof.

11. An apparatus as claimed in claim 10 wherein the body is made of extruded aluminum.
12. An apparatus as claimed in claim 10 wherein the body is made of molded plastics.
13. An apparatus as claimed in claim 10 wherein the open hollow configuration of the body comprises a pair of stop members extending from the respective major walls towards each other in a spaced-apart relationship.